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Agricultural Memorandum 490

Areas of High Sensitivity to Reduced Spring Sowing Schedules

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To avoid losses in yield due to late sowing, the available days can be increased by improved drainage. Conversely, with unaltered drainage the lateness can be avcided by increased work-force of men and machines and hence reduced schedules.

Of the 24 sample stations, the 9 which are most sensitive to reduction in schedule are in the following counties:-

North Norfolk	East Riding
Lincolnshire	Wiltshire
Leicestershire	Shropshire
Kent	Hampshire

Details are given in the Tables. The Index is the reduction in yield loss in units of percentage yield per day.

In these areas the yield loss is reduced approximately as follows:-

With good drainage	0.6% per day
moderate drainage	0.8% per day
poor drainage	1.2% per day
bad drainage	1.6% per day

Any comments or suggestions on this paper should be referred to the author.

Meteorological Office
Bracknell

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Percentage loss of Yield (1949-68)

Class A Drainage	Schedules			Index
	7	10	14	
Sandringham (Norfolk)	1.3	3.0	6.5	0.8
Sprowston (Norfolk)	0.8	2.6	5.8	0.8
Cranwell (Lincs)	1.7	3.3	6.1	0.6
Melton Mowbray (Leics)	1.6	3.0	5.1	0.5
Maidstone (Kent)	1.1	2.4	4.6	0.5
Holme (ER)	1.5	2.7	4.8	0.5
Bishops Cannings (Wilts)	1.8	3.3	5.6	0.5
Newport (Salop)	2.5	3.4	5.5	0.4
Andover (Hants)	2.0	3.2	5.1	0.4
MEAN	1.59	3.00	5.46	0.55
Class B Drainage				
Sandringham	2.7	5.5	10.5	1.1
Sprowston	1.9	4.7	8.9	1.0
Cranwell	3.3	5.9	10.4	1.0
Bishops Cannings	4.1	6.1	9.4	0.9
Melton Mowbray	3.5	5.3	8.4	0.7
Maidstone	2.6	4.5	7.4	0.7
Andover	3.0	4.5	7.5	0.7
Newport	3.5	5.2	8.0	0.6
Holme	2.8	4.3	6.7	0.6
MEAN	3.04	5.11	8.58	0.77

Class C Drainage

	Schedules			
	7	10	14	Index
Sandringham	5.5	10.5	17.4	1.7
Sprowston	5.3	8.9	15.6	1.5
Cranwell	6.5	8.3	16.4	1.4
Melton Mowbray	5.9	8.8	14.2	1.2
Newport	4.9	7.4	12.4	1.1
Holme	5.0	7.4	12.4	1.1
Andover	4.7	7.0	12.1	1.1
Maidstone	5.0	7.6	12.3	1.0
Bishops Cannings	8.0	10.5	14.4	0.9
MEAN	5.64	8.49	14.13	1.22

Class D Drainage

Sandringham	8.4	14.9	23.4	2.1
Sprowston	8.4	13.7	22.7	2.0
Newport	5.6	10.8	17.7	1.8
Cranwell	8.8	14.1	19.9	1.6
Melton Mowbray	7.6	11.4	18.3	1.5
Maidstone	7.1	10.6	17.8	1.5
Holme	6.4	10.0	17.2	1.5
Andover	5.6	9.2	15.5	1.4
Bishops Cannings	9.4	12.6	18.3	1.3
MEAN	7.38	11.92	18.98	1.65